

Message Text

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E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS: SNAR, UN
SUBJECT: FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION: COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC
DRUGS AGENDA ITEM 3 - ILLICIT TRAFFIC

1. CND CONSIDERED AGENDA ITEM 3, ILLICIT TRAFFIC, THE
AFTERNOON OF FEBRUARY 13 AND ALMOST ALL DAY FEBRUARY 14.
DISCUSSIONS FOCUSED ON SUB-ITEMS (A) REVIEW OF THE ILLICIT
DRUG TRAFFIC; (B) SUB-COMMISSION ON ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFIC
AND RELATED MATTERS IN THE NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST; (C)
MEETING OF OPERATIONAL HEADS OF NATIONAL NARCOTICS LAW EN-
FORCEMENT AGENCIES IN THE FAR EAST REGION.

2. SUB-ITEM 3(A): OF GREATEST INTEREST AMONG THE PRESEN-
TATIONS OF 31 COUNTRIES, OBSERVERS OF ICPO/INTERPOL, AND
CUSTOMS COOPERATION COUNCIL WERE THOSE OF TURKEY, FRG,
INDIA, AND US. THE TURKISH DELEGATION REPORTED ON ITS
EFFECTIVE CONTROLS OVER POPPY CULTIVATION, AND ITS EXPANDED
NARCOTIC ENFORCEMENT EFFORT DIRECTED AT NARCOTICS TRANSIT-
ING TURKEY FROM EAST AND SOUTH TOWARD EUROPE. THE FRG
DESCRIBED ITS OWN INCREASINGLY SERIOUS NARCOTICS PROBLEM,
REPORTING AN INCREASE IN HEROIN SMUGGLING BY TURKISH AND
OTHER WORKERS ENTERING GERMANY. THE INDIAN DELEGATION RE-
PORTED ITS CONCERN OVER RECENT HEROIN SEIZURES OF SOUTH-
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EAST ASIAN ORIGIN IN INDIA, A NEW DEVELOPMENT. (SUMMARY
OF 33 STATEMENTS ON AGENDA ITEM 3(A) WILL BE TRANSMITTED
TO INTERESTED POSTS.)

3. THE US STATEMENT, GIVEN BY DEA ADMINISTRATOR PETER B.
BENSINGER, DESCRIBED DECLINING HEROIN AVAILABILITY AND ABUSE
IN US AS A RESULT OF COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS IN MEXICO AND

SEASIA TO CURTAIL ILLICIT PRODUCTION, MANUFACTURE AND TRAFFIC. BENSINGER ALSO INDICATED THAT COCAINE TRAFFIC TO THE US APPEARS TO HAVE LEVELED OFF DURING 1977 AS A RESULT OF COOPERATIVE CONTROL EFFORTS IN BOLIVA, PERU, COLOMBIA, AND ECUADOR. BENSINGER EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER INCREASED HEROIN SMUGGLING FROM MID-EAST AND SOUTH ASIA TO EUROPE, AS WELL AS OVER APPARENT INCREASE IN MARIJUANA AND HASHISH AND DOMESTIC ILLICIT MANUFACTURE AND TRAFFIC OF STIMULANT, DEPRESSANT, AND HALLUCINOGENIC DRUGS. U.S. EFFORTS TO SUPPRESS ILLICIT TRAFFIC AND PROSECUTE MAJOR TRAFFICKERS WERE DESCRIBED. U.S. STATEMENT WAS RECEIVED WITH INTEREST, PARTICULARLY THE PORTIONS DESCRIBING THE ENORMOUS PROFITS GENERATED FROM THE DRUG TRAFFIC, AND THE U.S. EFFORT TO DETECT AND CONFISCATE FINANCIAL ASSETS OF TRAFFICKERS. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN FOLLOW-UP BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS ON THESE ISSUES. DOCUMENTS E/CN.7/613 PARTS 1 AND 2, REVIEW OF THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN 1976, WERE ALSO CONSIDERED FOR AGENDA ITEM 3(A).

4. WORLDWIDE HEROIN SEIZURES REPORTED IN 1977 WERE ABOUT THE SAME AS FOR 1976. DECLINING SEIZURES FROM MEXICO AND SOUTHEAST ASIA WERE LARGELY BALANCED BY AN INCREASE IN THOSE FROM THE MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA. EUROPEAN COUNTRIES REPORTED AN INCREASE OF AS MUCH AS 25 PERCENT IN HEROIN COMING FROM THE MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA, WITH A CONCOMITANT DECREASE FROM SOUTHEAST ASIA. COCAINE, WHICH UNCLASSIFIED

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UNTIL RECENTLY AFFECTED ONLY THE AMERICAN CONTINENTS, IS NOW BEING SEIZED IN INCREASING QUANTITIES IN WESTERN EUROPE. COCAINE TRAFFIC WAS REPORTED TO BE REACHING EUROPE FROM SOUTH AMERICA VIA SPAIN. TRAFFIC IN CANNABIS AND ITS DERIVATIVES CONTINUED TO EXPAND IN 1977, WHICH MANY DELEGATES FOUND DISTURBING. ALSO REPORTED WERE SEIZURES OF TWO LARGE LSD LABORATORIES IN THE UK IN MARCH 1977, WHICH SHARPLY REDUCED THE INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN LSD. AMPHETAMINE LABORATORY SEIZURES IN THE NETHERLANDS ALSO REDUCED AMPHETAMINE TRAFFIC TO SCANDINAVIA.

5. DESPITE EXTENSIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT COOPERATION, AND SOME SPECTACULAR SUCCESSES, MOST DELEGATIONS RECOGNIZED THAT CURTAILING ILLICIT CROP CULTIVATION AS MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS OF REDUCING NARCOTICS AVAILABILITY IN CONSUMER COUNTRIES. ALSO OBVIOUS WAS A GROWING RECOGNITION OF THE NEED TO REDUCE DEMAND IN ALL COUNTRIES.

6. SUB-ITEM 3(B): THE SUB-COMMISSION ON ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN THE NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST REPORT (DOCUMENT E/CN.7/610-E/CN.7SUB.1/4) WAS INTRODUCED BY SUB-COMMISSION CHAIRMAN AMBASSADOR YAVUZALP (TURKEY). THE REPORT WAS WELL RE-

CEIVED, AND THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES OBSERVER REQUESTED THAT THE ARAB STATES BE INVITED TO ATTEND FUTURE SUB-COMMISSION MEETINGS. ALGERIA WILL SPONSOR A RESOLUTION, WHICH CND IS EXPECTED TO APPROVE, ALLOWING THE SUB-COMMISSION TO ACCEDE TO THE ARAB REQUEST. THE SUB-COMMISSION AND THE MEETING OF OPERATIONAL HEADS OF NATIONAL NARCOTIC LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES FOR THE FAR EAST REGION ANNOUNCED PLANS TO EXCHANGE OBSERVERS AT FUTURE MEETINGS. IN RESPONSE TO USSR OBJECTION TO COST OF MEETINGS, SECRETARIAT NOTED THAT MUCH OF THE EXPENSE HAS BEEN BORNE BY MEMBER COUNTRIES AND

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7. SUB-ITEM 3(C): THE REPORT OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE OPERATIONAL HEADS OF NATIONAL NARCOTICS LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES OF THE FAR EAST, HELD AT PATTAYA, THAILAND, NOV. 28 TO DEC. 2, 1977, WAS PRESENTED BY THE SECRETARIAT. AT THAT MEETING, A RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED, WITHOUT OBJECTION, TO INVITE OUTSIDE OBSERVERS AGAIN IN 1978. THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE PRAISED REGIONAL COOPERATION IN GENERAL, AND THE WORK OF BOTH BODIES, AND SUPPORTED PRACTICE OF INVITING OUTSIDE OBSERVERS. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS MADE SIMILAR STATEMENTS.

8. THE U.S. DELEGATION PREPARED A RESOLUTION URGING GOVERNMENTS TO CARRY OUT MORE EFFECTIVELY AND PROMPTLY THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES TO REPORT ON ILLICIT TRAFFIC TO THE CND. REPRESENTATIVES OF CANADA, ITALY, TURKEY, TUNISIA, AUSTRALIA THE U.K., AND SWEDEN CO-SPONSORED THE RESOLUTION, WHICH WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY. VANDEN HEUVEL

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